

Editorial

Imphal, Saturday June 17, 2017

Ignoring the parallel Government

The recent spurt of protest against the killing of civilians by cadres of NSCN-IM at Ukhrul town in Manipur is a clear indication about the existence of a parallel government in the state. Neither the Union Government, which is ensuring peace talk with the NSCN-IM, nor the state government, which has been concealing the truth about the excess of the rebel group can now rule out the fact that, the NSCN-IM is running a parallel government in the state.

The picture becomes crystal clear, with the NSCN-IM claiming responsibility of the incident. What is more surprising is that the rebel group had stated that they had constituted an inquiry committee to find out the truth of the incident.

In its press statement the outfit writes - "NSCN expresses its shame and pain for the ongoing situation in Ukhrul as a result of Custodial death of rape accused Romeo Shally of Khamasom Village early morning of 15th June 2017 which got further aggravated when in a commotion Chingripam from the same village was hit by a stray bullet while resorting to blank fire while trying to disburse mob. On his way to hospital, he succumbed to his injury."

The statement openly said that the cadres of the NSCN-IM fired gunshots to disperse the mob, which meant that the cadres are openly carrying arms in the state of Manipur where the cease fire agreement between the Center and the outfit has not been extended.

Today is June 17, and the civil society organisations of the state are gearing up to observe the 'The Great June Uprising Day' or the 'Integrity Day' tomorrow, in commemoration to the mass uprising of June 2001, where 21 people were martyred while protesting against the extension of cease fire between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India beyond the state of Nagaland.

It is worth recalling that the infamous Bangkok declaration between the Govt. of India and the NSCN-IM, which had extended the cease fire between the two "without territorial limits", had almost burnt the state capital. State Assembly was burnt, almost all political parties offices, quarters of MLAs, Ministers were vandalised and even the Chief Minister's Bungalow was not spared by the angry agitators. On June 18, the mass uprising reached its climax with the death of 14 protestors leaving several others injured in police firing. More protestors succumbed to injury reaching the number to 18. 3 more also died in the protest for protection of the territorial integrity of the state.

The Ukhrul incident of the day before yesterday is indeed as serious as Bangkok declaration. A mere mistake in handling the issue may spark another June 18. Let the state act and let the ground rule of the cease fire be properly followed for the good of the state call Manipur.

Pan Card, Dependent ID (SSB) lost

I, the undersigned, have lost my Pan card (No. CCOPS3205H, and also my Dependent Identity Card (SSB) (No. 679028) issued in the name of Tekcham Nandajit Singh on the way between Palace Compound Imphal to Imphal East DC Office on May 11, 2017.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Tekcham Ramananda
S/o Tekcham Chandro Singh

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National and International News

President Pranab Mukherjee turns down two more mercy petitions; 30 rejections now in tenure

Courtesy - First Post

President Pranab Mukherjee rejected mercy petitions in two more cases in the last week of May, bringing the total number of mercy pleas rejected by him to 30. This comes just weeks before Mukherjee's term as head of State ends.

The cases involved the 2012 rape and murder of a four-year-old girl in Indore by three men, and the 2007 gangrape and murder of a techie in Pune by a taxi driver and his friend, *The Times of India* reported. Babu alias Ketan, Jitendra alias Jitu and Devendra alias Sunny were found guilty in the 2012 Indore case, while Purushottam Dasharath Borate and Pradeep Yashvant Kokade were convicted in the 2007

Pune case.

These rejections come just months after the president in January commuted the death sentences of four convicts to life imprisonment, in the Bara massacre case. The convicts were Krishna Mochi, Nanhe Lal Mochi, Bir Kuer Paswan, and Dharmendra Singh alias Dharu Singh. The official website of the president's secretariat says that there are no more mercy petitions pending before Mukherjee.

The 30 petitions rejected by Mukherjee include those of 2008 Mumbai terror attack convict Ajmal Kasab, 2001 Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru, and those by Simon, Gnanaprakash, Madaiah and

Bilavandran — associates of the notorious Indian brigand Veerappan.

The number of mercy petitions rejected by Mukherjee stand in sharp contrast to that of his recent predecessors. Pratibha Patil granted clemency to 34 convicts during her tenure while rejecting three pleas, including the assassins of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi — Murugan, Santhan and Perarivalan. APJ Abdul Kalam rejected one petition, left 14 pending and granted clemency in one case. He disposed of only two cases, rejecting the mercy petition of Dhananjay Chatterjee, accused of raping and murdering a teenager.

The election for the next president will take place in July 2017.

Vodafone integrated plans

IT News

Imphal, June 17: Vodafone India has introduced the revolutionary integrated plans Vodafone SuperDay and SuperWeek enabling their prepaid customer's unlimited local and STD calls with free data bundled.

Customers can make every day a SuperDay (at just Rs 19 a day) and every week a SuperWeek (at just Rs 49 for a week) with the option of unlimited repeat purchases of these integrated packs.

MHJU, AMWJU Condole

Imphal, June 17: The Manipur Hill Journalists Union (MHJU) has condoled the untimely demise of its member

Ginnuanthang Guite (41) S/o(L)Thongkhang Guite of Mission Veng, Hiangtam Lamka, Churachandpur who passed away today morning. One of the senior reporters based in Churachandpur, Ginnuanthang Guite was the correspondent of Imphal-based news channel ISTV. He is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.

In a condolence message, MHJU shared the grief and pain of the bereaved family while also praying for the departed soul to rest in peace.

The All Manipur Working Journalists' Union has also deeply condoled the demise of Ginnuanthang Guite.

Local Kung Fu 2 ready for nationwide screening

Guwahati, June 17: After running houseful shows and getting rave reviews throughout Assam, Local Kung Fu 2 is now ready to entertain the national film lovers through single screenings in Navi Mumbai and Noida on June 18 and in Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Bangalore, Delhi and Kolkata on June 21.

Organized by 1018mb.com, most of the shows of Local Kung Fu 2 are on-demand, which means that the screening will only happen if 30% of tickets are booked in advance. If the show does not happen, the ticket money will be refunded. A recent example of 1018mb's success

is the Malayalam film Angamaly Diaries, which drew houseful crowds in Mumbai and just had a successful show in Kolkata.

The film has also been re-released today with two shows at 11:15am and 2:15pm in Gold Cinemas, Paltan Bazar. So LKF fans who missed out on watching Local Kung Fu 2 earlier in theatres, now have another chance. The film is also available on MovieSaints.com for paid viewership starting at Rs. 150.

Speaking on the occasion, **Director-Producer Kenny Basumatary** said, "We are really excited about the upcoming national

release, and hope that the Assamese communities living in the metros are as upbeat about this as we are. Besides, the film will be screened with English subtitles, so anyone can enjoy the film, irrespective of whether they know Assamese language or not."

Based on William Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors, Local Kung Fu 2 is about two pairs of twins who get separated at birth. One pair of twins stays in Guwahati and the other stays in Tezpur. The pair in Guwahati know martial arts, but the pair in Tezpur do not, and the film is all about the madcap confusion that ensues.

Contd. from previous issue

Manipur: The Boiling Bowl of Ethnicity

By: Dr. Aaron Lumleng

2. Civil Organization: In respect of social organizations, there are a number of organizations said to be working for the general, whereas in the true sense, it exposes that they represents for a section of the community even if it bears the great nomenclature envisage the whole state. There seems to have no commonness and a united platform in Manipur to address social issues jointly. Instances like; AMUCO (All Manipur United Committee Organization), UCM (United Committee Manipur) etc. are valley based organization represented by Meitei confined to fight for Meitei community is strongly seen over and over again. On the other hand, the ATSUM (All Tribal Student Union Manipur, UNC (United Naga Council) etc. Do not hinder nor interfere in the aspirations of the Meitei but the socio-cultural and political identity of the tribe and the Nagas in particular. The later Chin-Mizo- Kuki have several civil organizations. During the Mizo Accord all the contiguous areas of Chin-Mizo could not materialize so Chin-Mizo living in Churachandpur district does not perform as a puffer society between the Meitei and the Nagas nor the Kukis who scattered in the Valley and the Hill cannot act as an intermediate community between the autochthonous aboriginal. Besides, civil organization, social media and human rights activist are also undoubtedly bias in their own ethnic line.

3. Political and administrative quandary: In a democratic system of government, some of the ethical ideals of democracy are equal representation meaning, that all groups are fairly represented adequately and accurately by all communities to safeguard diversity. Again, democracy must cooperate and compromise to protect the individual / groups' rights to be indifferent. For this, a climate of

tolerance is critical. It invests long-term fair policy, thereby promoting good governance to create conditions for economic growth and sustainable development focus on the future generations' prospects. Despite the principle of majority rule, it centered on the maintenance of decentralized and local government bodies. In a democracy, it needs to understand that all levels of government should be accessible to, and equally represents the people to develop dynamic democratic State. Such insight, lack in Manipur political and administrative policies, as the elucidation shows the lopsided representation in the Manipur Legislative Assembly and unfair policies of the Manipur government. The 4 valley districts have 40 seats while the 5 hill districts have 20 seats. If Imphal East and Thoubal have 11 and 10 seats respectively why don't Senapati, which has more population, but given just 6 seats? How about Churachandpur and Bishnupur to have 6 seats, which is more or less the half of Senapati district population? Ukhrul, the second largest district, with a population of almost 2 lacs has just 3 representatives which mean around 60,000 and Chandel around 70,000 people are represented by 1 MLA. While in the valley the 1 MLA represents for around 40,000 people. Mao has 52,128 voters, while 55-Tipaimukh has just 17,478 voters. Some of the constituencies in the Imphal Valley have a population of just around 20,000. The population ratio of the valley and hill districts is approximately 58/42 but the representation in the State Legislative Assembly is 40/20. This is one of the simple example how valley framed malicious policy to rule the state according to their convenience. In fact, the valley (Meitei) is less than the trials, but due to absorbing the tribal

population in the valley makes the majority in population for first hand priority. On the other hand, when it comes to the state share (quota), more than 60 percent will be left to the Meitei Generals while the remaining 40 will be allotted for OBC/ST in various states' civil services. Such are the pull and push policies of an iniquitous state holding community.

The valley districts occupy just 9 percent of the total area of the state, which is only 2,238 Sq.km but the most of the funds of the state, almost all funds are kept for development purposes in the valley districts and negligible percent will be allotted to the Hills. The philosophy of the valley inhabitants in aspects of development is very much visual like placement of all the state/central institutions in the valley, e.g., Medical Institute (RIMS), Universities inclusive of

Polytechnic, IIT, Tribal University, IGNOU, Colleges (Imphal), Sports stadium/complex etc. are all centered within Imphal in the radius of Meitei reached. Not only that, in any tenders or in (contract work) in the Hills without the Meiteis involvement in the given work will not materialize in an open secret.

To conclude, the boiling bowl can easily control through the search of brotherhood based on genealogy/common ancestors. The commotion is the failure of the Nagas and Meitei ignorance on the value of the common root of evolution that holds a common future. Peace and Love is not one sided so the search for prosperity should be from both angles so as to find a common beautiful end.

(Concluded)
(The writer is an anthropologist and can be reached at doclumleng@gmail.com)

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